

## Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /023 W

----- 114995

R 242046Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8957

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 5736

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AIDAC, DR

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

1. DOMINICAN OFFICIALS HAVE APPROACHED EMBASSY WITH REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON PROBLEM BEING ENCOUNTERED IN CONSTRUCTION OF PUERTO PLATA AIRPORT. WE BELIEVE THAT TDY ASSITNMENT OF AID ENGINEER FOR ABOUT A WEEK HERE WOULD BE OF GREAT VALUE IN HELPING TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM. REQUEST, THEREFORE, THAT AID ARRANGE FOR SUCH ASSIGNMENT AS SOON AS FEASIBLE.

2. PROBLEM IS AS FOLLOWS: THE GODR IS CONSTRUCTING, WITH WORLD BANK FINANCING, LA UNION INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 14 KMS EAST OF PUERTO PLATA. THE AIRPORT IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF A MAJOR NORTH COAST TOURISM PROJECT. COMPLETION OF AIRPORT HAS BEEN HAMPERED BY DISCOVERY OF SEVERAL CAVERNS IN CORAL LIMESTONE BENEATH THE ALREADY COMPLETED RUNWAY.

3. THE GODR CONTRACTED A US FIRM, PHOTOGRAVITY CO., INC., 6440 HILLCRAFT, HOUSTON, TEXAS TO CONDUCT A GRAVIMETRIC SURVEY OF THE RUNWAY. ON THE BASIS OF THE SURVEY, HOLES WERE BORED FIVE METERS APART ON THE RUNWAY AND LIQUID CEMENT GROUP WAS PUMPED IN TO FILL THE CAVITIES. APPROXIMATELY 20 PERCENT OF THE RUNWAY WAS TREATED IN THIS MANNER. PROJECT MANAGERS AND CONSULTANTS, STANLEY CONSULTANTS, INC., MUSCATINE, IOWA, HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT GRAVIMETRIC SURVEY AND CEMENT GROUT OPERATION MAY HAVE LEFT SOME UNDISCOVERED CAVITIES BENEATH THE RUNWAY.

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4. GODR IS NOW CONSIDERING HIRING A FIRM TO TEST THE RUNWAY BUT NOT SURE WHICH SYSTEM OF TESTING IS MOST APPROPRIATE OR EVEN IF TESTING IS NECESSARY.

5. ENGINEER MOST LIKELY TO BE OF ASSISTANCE WOULD PROBABLY BE ONE WITH GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF UNDISCOVERED CAVITIES AND WITH KNOWLEDGE OF PAVEMENTS AND THEIR TESTING.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE A PROMPT AID RESPONSE.  
AXELROD

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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